

2015 Great Lakes Regional Meeting of Coastal Management Programs

September 14 -17, 2015

Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 939 Third Street, Muskegon, Michigan 49440

Phone: 844-804-1471 website: www.holidayinn.com/Muskegon Rate: \$83/night

Monday September 14, 2015

Travel day

Check-in to Hotel

3:00 Field Trip: Bike Tour of Muskegon Lakeshore bike path – Host Kathy Evans

Muskegon - Lakeshore Trail Green Infrastructure Bicycle Tour

Beginning at Muskegon County Convention and Visitors Bureau (0.4 mile walk from the hotel)

610 West Western Avenue, Muskegon, Michigan 49440

This field trip will feature scenic views of Muskegon Lake, rain gardens, a green roof, and a two-mile stretch of restored Muskegon Lake shoreline habitat along the City of Muskegon's Lakeshore Trail bike path. The economic benefits and results of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission's \$10 million Muskegon Lake shoreline habitat restoration project will be featured. Participants will meet in downtown Muskegon at the Muskegon County Convention and Visitors Bureau, grab a provided bike, and wind through the Grand Valley State University Annis Water Resources Institute, LaFarge port terminal, Heritage Landing, and Hartshorn Marina before entering the two-mile stretch of restored shoreline. The bicycle tour will end in the Lakeside business district at the Grand Trunk Launch Ramp. Participants will then bike back to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (where the bicycle tour began) and walk a short distance to the Pigeon Hill Brewing Company for the networking dinner. Participants will view the brewery's historic décor and virgin white pine tables, made from lumber-era sawmill wood that was repurposed from the Muskegon Lake shoreline habitat restoration project.

6:30 CZM Networking Dinner – Pigeon Hill Brewing Company

Tuesday September 15, 2015

7:30 Continental Breakfast

8:00 Welcome and Introductions-

Ronda Wuycheck, MCZMP Chief

Jon Allan, Director, Office of the Great Lakes

Session – State and Regional Collaboration – Cheri Meyer as moderator

9:00 Round Robin Discussion of State and Regional Collaboration

- Shipwrecks (30 minutes) – Mike Molnar (IN)
- Watershed Assessment/Climate Change (30 minutes) – Amber Westerbur (MN) and Stephanie Wojtowicz (NY)
- NEPA Issues (30 minutes) – Mike Friis (WI) and Ronda Wuycheck (MI)

10:30 Break

10:45 Continued Round Robin Discussion

- Sand Resource Management – State Approaches and Experiences (60 minutes) – Diane Tecic (IL), Don Benczkowski (PA) and Scudder Mackey (OH)
- Open floor discussion on collaboration (15 minutes)

12:00 Lunch - Paul Seelbach/USGS Guest Speaker on the binational Water Quality Agreement Nearshore Framework and results from USGS's 2014 workshops on coastal/nearshore science priorities

Session – Building Great Lakes Coastal Communities Resiliency – Matt Smar as moderator

1:00 Coastal Resiliency Networked Partner Presentations

- What Makes a Great Lakes Community “Coastal” - Dr. Richard Norton, University of Michigan
- Building Community Resilience in Coastal Communities - Whitney Waara, LIAA
- Innovative Sustainability Training Programs - Andrea Brown, Michigan Association of Planners
- Why Do Lake Levels Matter – Maggie Allan, Graham Institute
- National Perspective – Bradley Watson, Counsel and Director of Coastal Resilience, Coastal States Organization

5:00 Overview of Wednesday Field Trips and Conclude meeting

6:30 Dinner on your own

Wednesday September 16, 2015

8:00 Continental Breakfast

Session – State/Federal Partnerships – Rachael Franks Taylor as moderator

8:30 NOAA Policy and Project Updates

- National Program Updates – Joelle Gore
- Update on Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands Conservation, Coastal LCC Working Group, and Saginaw Bay – Maumee River Resilient Lands and Waters Designation – Heather Stirratt
- Habitat Initiatives in Muskegon: One NOAA Approach – Liz Mountz and Terry Heatlie (NMFS Restoration Center)

10:00 Break

10:15 NOAA Updates (cont'd)

- Lake Level Viewer – Stories from the Field and Scheduled Improvements – Brandon Krumwiede
- Update on New OCM Green Infrastructure Products – Rachael Franks Taylor
- Telling Great Lakes Stories – How Can OCM Help States Share their Successes? – Heather Stirratt

11:00 Breakout sessions

States only

NOAA only

12:00 Lunch - box lunches to go

Field trips and presentations

- NOAA Lake Michigan Field Station

In 1990, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, assumed ownership of the former Coast Guard base at Muskegon, Michigan on the south side of the channel between Muskegon Lake and Lake Michigan. The site includes three buildings and research vessel dockage next to the main building.

The US Coast Guard established the Muskegon Life Saving Station in 1879, and a building was constructed at the current location in 1905. You can read more about its history from this [PDF from the Coast Guard](#) and from [this page on the Michigan Lighthouse Conservancy's website](#).

With its distinctive building architecture and prime location adjacent to public parks, the field station has become an icon of the Muskegon community. The LMFS is centrally located on the Maritime Heritage Walkway, which was funded by a NOAA Preserve America grant in 2009. Interpretive signage along that walkway includes educational opportunities that explain the technical and green elements of the facility. That spirit of preservation was made evident in the softening of landscape, native dune grass plantings, and habitat reclamation.

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/lmfs/>

- Muskegon Clean Marina

Established in 1965, Torresen Marine in Muskegon is a full service marina/boatyard with 100 slips and 600 sailboats. They offer an array of sailing products and provide a range of services including mechanical, electrical, painting, bright work, rigging, haul out, storage, commissioning launch, plumbing and interior construction. A certified Michigan Clean Marina since 2009, Torresen Marine has pledged to help maintain and improve Michigan's waterways by reducing or eliminating the release of harmful substances while phasing out practices that can damage aquatic environments. The company's "green" program includes the use of low-volatile-organic-compound paints, environmentally sensitive boat bottom materials, and water conservation measures.

- Field trip to Hoffmaster Park – Interpretative beach walk & Dangerous Currents Discussion – Host DNR Marketing Elizabeth Brockwell-Tillman

P. J. Hoffmaster State Park features over three miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, a 293 site modern campground, towering Lake Michigan dunes, and the Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center. Miles of hiking and skiing trails offer stunning views of Lake Michigan and subtle beauty at every turn.

<http://www.michigandnr.com/publications/pdfs/wildlife/viewingguide/slp/79Hoffmaster/index.htm>

6:30 Dinner on your own

Thursday September 17, 2015

7:30 Continental Breakfast

Session – Coastal Hazards regarding Beach Safety – Matt Warner as moderator

8:00 Michigan's Dangerous Currents Initiative

- The Research – Dr. Guy Meadows, Great Lakes Research Center, Michigan Technological University
- The Outreach – Elizabeth LaPorte, University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute
- The Program Change – DNR State Policy Mike Evanoff, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Division

9:30 Break

9:40 NOAA Coastal Storms Initiatives

- Overview of CSP Beach Safety Efforts in Great Lakes and ERG Risk Communication Strategy – Brent Schleck, NOAA Coastal Storms Program/MN Sea Grant
- Beach Safety Kits – Elizabeth LaPorte, University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute
- Beach Safety Kits/Efforts in Wisconsin – Todd Breiby, Wisconsin Coastal Management Program
- Au Train Township, MI Nearshore Modeling to Address Coastal Hazards – Dr. Guy Meadows, Great Lakes Research Center, Michigan Technological University

Session – Regional Meeting Take Aways – Ronda Wuycheck as moderator

11:00-12:00 Round Robin Discussion - ALL

Safe Travels